

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1863.

Announcements To-day.

Cassier—Price Reduction, 4 P. M.	
Baldwin Square Theatre.—The Baldwin, 3:30 P. M.	
Brae's Palace Music Hall, Vesuvius, 7:30 P. M.	
Theatre Comique.—Malibran Opera House, 8 P. M.	
Winton Theatre.—The White Stag, 8 P. M.	

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Aug. 11, 1863, was:

Funday	123,211	Wednesday	118,201
Sunday	124,212	Thursday	127,402
Monday	126,212	Friday	127,402
Tuesday	128,212	Saturday	129,202

Total for the week..... 1,111,271

Camp Meetings.

With August the camp-meeting season reaches its climax. Life in tents then, it ever, becomes in most places enjoyable, and those who can only obtain a few days of vacation from routine occupations for their summer pleasure are apt, if possible, to select this month for enjoying it. Yet so numerous have camp meetings now become that the earliest begin with the opening of the summer resorts, and before all have had their turn, it is already the middle of September. Even with schedules arranged to accommodate those enthusiastic devotees of camp meetings who make the rounds in a prolonged summer of spiritual exaltation, many of the meetings are perfectly held simultaneously.

Camp meetings are sometimes spoken of as institutions that have had their day; but the facts do not warrant this notion. At all the famous centres like Sing Sing, Ocean Grove, Sea Cliff, Martha's Vineyard, Yarmouth, Mount Taber, Silver Lake, Thousand Islands, Carmel, Northampton, Juniper, Wyoming, and Willimantic, they are palpably thriving; and while some of the older resorts have suffered somewhat from the rivalry of newer and more attractive ones, yet it is very rare to hear of any being abandoned for lack of support. They extend, too, in every direction across the country—from East Poland and Old Orchard in Maine, through Wey's in New Hampshire, Lake View and Hamilton in Massachusetts, Canaan and West Redding in Connecticut, Merrick in Long Island, Cape May and Atlantic Highlands in New Jersey, Landisville and Johnson's Heights in Pennsylvania, Concord and Woodlawn, Emory Grove, Windor Heights, and Wyo in Maryland, and so southward till they reach Topisan in Mississippi and Cypress Bayou in Louisiana. Or again, moving from East to West, they start with Round Lake, Auburn, Willow Creek, Hunter, and the other familiar spots in New York, and, journeying through Lincolne in Ohio, Island Park in Indiana, Lincoln, Lake Bluff, Des Plaines, and Jacksonville in Illinois, Clear Lake Park in Iowa, Mahomet in Minnesota, they strike the Pacific with Brentwood in California.

But while the camp meeting, so far from declining, is really growing with the growth of the country, no doubt it is largely changing its character, and particularly in two respects. The primitive simplicity of the exercises, in the first place, has given way to a great variety of attractions. Not only do foreign missions, temperance, Sunday schools, and similar subjects claim their share of the season, but in the Indiana camp meeting we find art schools in operation, and in the Illinois camp a school of languages and another of philosophy in full blast, while diverting lectures, concerto, and other entertainments are going on everywhere. The meetings for the conversion of sinners may not be cut down, but they are certainly supplemented by entirely different classes of pursuits at the same places and usually under the same management.

It is doubtful, therefore, whether the number of conversions is nowadays equal to that of former times, when the camp meetings were far less numerous and less varied in their programmes.

But a second change, still more marked, is the substitution of regular villages of comfortable, and often handsome, cottages for the rough-and-ready life of former years. Tents are still occupied by thousands, but they have no appearance of being temporarily pitched and are more like permanent dwellings, with their carpeted floors, lace hangings, and luxuriant fittings. Between meetings, or even while meetings are going on, bathing, boating, driving, and croquet enlivens the quietude of the camp; and so largely has the social element gained upon the religious, that at some of these encampments the tally of engagements and marriages seems to be bragged of as much as that of the conversions. The consequence of these changes is that the camp management becomes of necessity a business enterprise, conducted by men versed in real estate; while a permanent population, depending on the summer patronage, is gathered at the camps.

Some old-time Methodists do not doubt that they regard as the lapse of camp meetings into worldliness; but it would be a hasty jumping at conclusions to decide that the changes are for the worse.

No Postal Telegraph Wanted.

Neither the plan to buy out the existing telegraph companies nor the proposal that the Government shall build new lines and enter into competition with the Western Union and other companies deserves the least favor from Congress. Wherever the Government has departed from its proper functions, and entered into the operations of business, or experimented in special pursuits, waste, robbery, corruption, and prodigality have followed as natural consequences.

The public printing is an example of this. The expenditures for printing, binding, &c., during the last twenty years aggregate, in round numbers, thirty-five millions of dollars. More than one-half of this enormous sum has been stolen, squandered, and cast into the junk shops. Members of Congress know well enough that this condition of things exists, but no serious attempt is made to correct the abuses. They get patronage and perquisites through the bureaus, and therefore they vote whatever may be asked by the Committees on Printing, who uniformly are on the best terms with the Public Printer for the time being.

There are nearly two thousand persons employed in the Government printing office, all appointed by political influence, and many of them enjoying profitable sinecures. The bureau has been run as a part-and-parcel affair from the beginning, and it will be run in that way to the end. It costs three millions a year, exclusive of the enormous pile of bindings and the plant, in which many hundreds of thousands of dollars have been sunk.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing employs nearly fifteen hundred persons, who are appointed by political influence, and not for merit, experience, or efficiency. A register is kept, and a Senator or a Representative whose term has expired is soon made to understand that his name is worthless to this bureau, and that his successor has fallen due to the patronage he may have enjoyed.

All the public buildings have cost the peo-

ple much more than if the work had been in private hands. The figures vary from twenty to forty per cent, over regular rates. With so-called naval architects, with shipyards, with existing plant, and with officers to superintend construction, it is estimated that a vessel of war built with these advantages will cost at least a fourth more than in private yards. The same thing may be said of the armories and of other Government works.

The reason of these excessive charges is that nobody seems to care for the interests of the taxpayer. The Government is considered fair game, and the politicians make the most of the chances for getting rich. Meanwhile the Executive power is constantly expanding through this increase of patronage, and the Administration which happens for such a length of time may well be satisfied. To persist in his efforts after their attention begins to flag has a tendency to weaken the faculty rather than to strengthen it. The pupils should be allowed to find relief in some other study.

These views are worthy of consideration by the thousands of parents who will send their children to school this autumn, many of them for the first time. To such other persons as may attribute their ailments or the silences of their friends to overwork, we commend the declaration of the excellent medical authority from which we have already quoted that desultory and insufficient work is far more to be feared than overwork.

written for the occasion by Mr. ALBEE." And under the stone, as it was hoisted into place, was deposited a leaden box which contained "copies of Mr. STEDMAN's works."

We are not told whether any surprise was manifested by the stolid New Hampshire workmen who saw this leaden box with its valuable contents consigned to a posterity more or less remote. They cheered, it is true, but they knew they were going to have some of the punch.

Justice to Judge Black.

In some comments upon a controversy between Judge J. S. BLACK and Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS, the *Advertiser* says of Judge BLACK that "he was imposed upon by Mr. DAVIS to his loyalty to the Union, vouches for in a significant way, and it needed something of the kind. A cloud rested upon his title to the rights and honors of patriotism."

The late EDWIN M. STANTON was certainly a competent witness in this case. Mr. STANTON has said to us that the country owed a great debt of gratitude to Judge BLACK for his patriotic conduct while a member of President BUCHANAN's Cabinet; that in conjunction with Mr. DIX, Mr. HOLT, and himself, Judge BLACK exerted all his ability to restrain the movement of secession; and that it was largely due to him that the Government was finally delivered unbroken into the hands of Mr. LINCOLN.

The opinion of Mr. STANTON ought to have the greatest weight on such a question.

That Garfield promised to make L. M. Morton Secretary of the Treasury is undoubtedly true. It is also undoubted that the promise was in return for Morton's services in raising money for the then pending election. The failure to redeem that pledge was the original cause of the rupture between Garfield and the Stuarts. It destroyed any confidence in his good faith that may have previously existed.

When Conkling was invited to visit Mentor, this subject necessarily came up at the conference which took place between the President and the Senator. Conkling did not go there.

Men of his own county, and in particular the Senator himself, had for ten years past given him a considerable sum yearly that he was willing to deposit, and having behind him large numbers of creditors, that he would never be compelled to give up his residence in Orange, unless it became necessary for him to do so.

Conkling further said that he was interested in the man well, and by printing the article referred to it has done something beneath a year's notice of his reputation.

Steel nails are the latest novelty.

"Shub" is the name of the new and magnificient ball at the Eden Theatre, Paris.

Jules Verne, in his latest, fantastic romance, makes use of the wealth of California millionaire.

An effort was made in the French Chamber to force the railroad companies to adopt a new pattern of cars, with sideways through them, as in America; but this was defeated.

The General Assembly of Connecticut, in its session just ended, passed a bill to prohibit the sale of lottery tickets.

CHARACTER FOR TRUTH AND VERACITY VERY BAD.

County of Orange, Town of Newburgh, 392. Bewick Millspough of the village and town of Newburgh, County of Orange, being duly sworn, says

that he is a constable of said town; that he was well acquainted with Daniel C. Birdsell during the period of his residence in Orange, and that he was a most decent, sober, respectable, and perfectly decent and honorable man; and defendant further says that he was looked upon and considered by his neighbors and the public at large as a dishonest and unreliable man; and defendant further says he has the reputation of a notorious lie-and-slander.

H. M. PEPPER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me June 24, 1864.

W. F. SLOCUM, Notary Public in and for Orange County.

NO RELIANCE TO BE PLACED ON HIS WORD.

County of Orange, Town of Newburgh, 393. Francis A. Barton of Canterbury, in town of Canterbury, being duly sworn, says

that defendant says that in his opinion reliance what ever could be placed upon the word of Daniel C. Birdsell, and that his reputation for truth and veracity in the neighborhood was bad.

F. A. BARTON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me June 25, 1864.

J. B. T. JASPER, Justice of the Peace.

A CONNECTICUT ESTIMATE OF BIRDSELL.

County of Orange, Town of Newburgh, 394. Daniel C. Birdsell of Westport has got into great difficulty for being permitted to use the emblem of the Hartford Courant for a district against Samuel J. Tilden and the New York Sun, according to them of helping to defeat Gen. Hancock. Birdsell is so well known in the section that they have had to take steps to prevent his name from appearing in any paper as the Courant, unless it be that journal, in either of the partisan stripe, will prominently state his disregard to political opponents for party sake.

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The Rev. D. P. Peck, Treasurer of Maine, left that State for Europe twenty two years ago, but lately returned to Portland, presented a serious short account of his financial condition.

The assertion is made in Paris that Sarah Bernhardt is coming to the United States in the autumn to give four hundred evenings for fancy dress performances, but no engagement of the kind has been heard of in this country.

Authors, journalists, artists, soldiers, and one who was among the greatest of Prince Wales' recent garden party at Marlborough House, were dining with the Queen.

A still in London, London, for the building of a church, held when sees "some of the most lovely specimens of transatlantic beauty" was opened.

Garfield sought refuge in an alleged misunderstanding of the bargain, which he claimed left him the choice of rewarding Morton with a principal mission, the Treasury, or the control of refunding the loans. He had then decided to throw New York over, and to violate the engagement made in presence of several leading Republicans, who are living witnesses of the terms of the contract, and of whom some were careful enough to put the conditions in writing.

Conkling took leave of Mentor no wiser than when he went there as to Garfield's intentions, except in the knowledge that the Mentor guard was not to be kept. Raubing talk, diluted generalities, and evading professions consumed most of a day, and when the time came for departure the visit was prolonged at Garfield's urgent instance until the last train at night, with empty repetition of this gaudy gabble and without a sign of any positive purpose.

This was the reception and the welcome offered to the man who had, by his personal efforts and by his political power, made Garfield's election possible in presence of impending defeat.

Conkling had permitted the Great Fraud to be consummated when his voice and votes could not prevail against the Iniquity. He was in 1856, but he was active in 1860, and the ingratitude of Garfield was perhaps a just punishment for his course.

Conkling had earned sixteen years continuous service in Congress, and was highly familiar with his character as a public man. It was not necessary for him to go to Mentor to discover his conduct, and the chief evidence of the failure of the sunrisers will be in the evening, when an address by the Mayor, a poem by Paul H. Hanley, the unveiling of Valentine's statue of Bonney Y. Hinckley, who was Cleveland's first Mayor, as well as Governor of the State, and a display of fireworks will constitute the programme. A memorable century of commingled glories and griefs will have to review to-day.

In the brief account by cable of the meeting of Empress William and Francis Joseph at Leopolis, it was mentioned that they went to the theatre together in the evening, but no particulars were given of the performance.

The omission may be supplied out of the Vienna correspondence of the London Standard:

"On the following day, the Empress William will arrive at Leopolis. Her imperial preparations are now complete for her visit, and she will be received with the usual ceremony of the court.

On the evening of her arrival, she will go to the theatre, and will be present at the representation of the 'Carnival Adventures in Paris,' in which forty of the best dancers from Vienna will appear."

Thus we get an idea of the kind of dramatic performance which was thought to be best suited to the taste of the old monarch.

We have no disposition, as the *Advertiser* alleges, to hold Mr. Dix up to ridicule.

He may be a companion sort of man, and he may make a companionable Senator, but it is difficult to do justice to him, and he may be easily led into error.

He is the man who is most likely to be elected to the Senate, and he is the man who is most likely to be re-elected.

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